

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth



Charette Health Care Center 25th Anniversary



April 30, 2024



**Master Chief Hospital
Corpsman
Submarine Service
William R. Charette**

United States Navy, Retired

Master Chief Charette was a native of Ludington Michigan, and he graduated from Saint Simon's High School in 1950. He enlisted in the United States Navy on January 11, 1951. After attending boot camp at Great Lakes, Illinois., he proceeded to Hospital Corps "A" School. Upon Graduation, Master Chief Charette Reported to his first permanent duty station at Naval Hospital Charleston, South Carolina. Following a successful tour in Charleston, Master Chief Charette was selected to attend Field Medical School

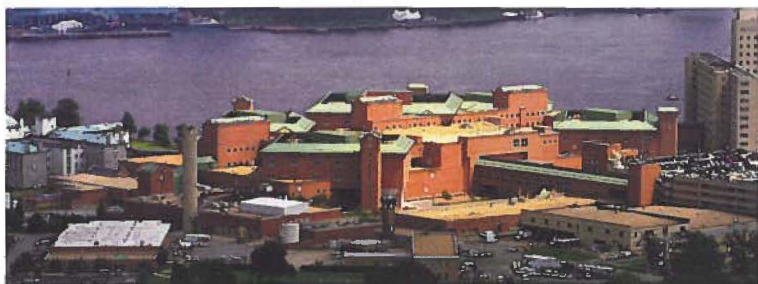
at Camp Pendleton, California, in preparation for service with the Fleet Marine Forces (FMF). His first assignment with the Marine Corps was to the 1st Marine Division in Korea. While attached to Company F, 2nd battalion, 7th Marine Division, then Hospital Corpsman Third Class Charette face the hostilities of war while serving in the Panmunjom Corridor (DMZ).

In the early morning hours of March 27, 1953, his company encountered fierce enemy fire in the vicinity of a bitterly contested outpost. Master Chief Charette's bravery and conspicuous gallantry in providing medical aid and protection to the wounded members of his own unit and adjacent platoons demonstrated the fine traditions of Naval Service and earned him subsequent personal recognition. On January 12, 1954, he was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

After his service in Korea, Master Chief Charette reported to Submarine School and Nuclear Power School in New London, Connecticut. He served consecutive tours on USS Quillback (SS 242) and USS Triton (SSN 586) before reporting to the Fleet Ballistic Missile Training Center in Charleson. Following his shore assignment, Master Chief Charette returned to sea on USS Daniel Webster (SSBN 626) and USS Simon Bolivar (SSBN 646). He also completed tours at Naval Hospital Orlando and the Recruit Dispensary, Recruit Training Center, Orlando, Florida.

In May 1958, Master Chief Charette was instrumental in the selection of World War II Unknown Soldier buried in the national tomb at Arlington Cemetery. Master Chief Charette retired from the Navy on April 1, 1977. Upon retirement, he completed an Associated Degree in Science at Polk Community College.

Master Chief Charette was laid to rest in The Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida. He was married for 57 years and had four children.



Charette Health Care Center

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth

- ❖ Total building Square Footage:
1.02 million square feet
- ❖ Five Stories
- ❖ Elevators: 26
- ❖ Electronic Information Kiosks
- ❖ Clinical/Exam rooms: More than 300
- ❖ Clinical /Special treatment rooms:
More than 140
- ❖ Inpatient Bed Capacity: 353
 - Medical/Surgical
 - Trauma
 - Pediatric Medical/Surgical/Neonatal
 - Obstetrics/Gynecology
 - Psychiatry
 - Critical Care Units

Also

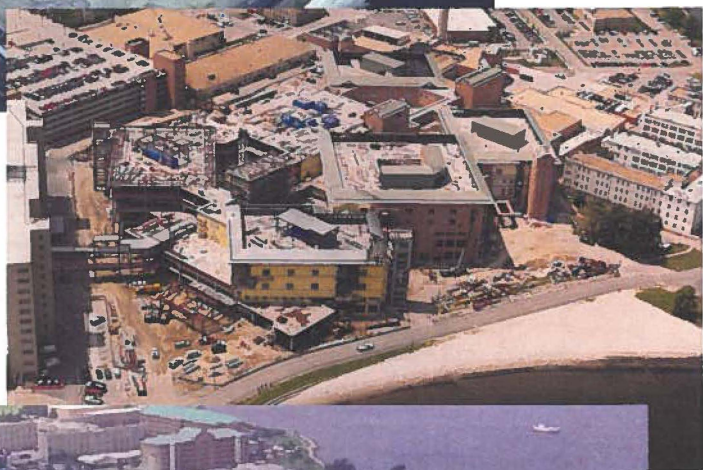
- Ambulatory Procedure Unit
- Dental Services
- Digital Imaging
- State-of-the-art MRIs, CT scanners, angiography suits, linear accelerations, mammography, ultrasound and other imaging capabilities

Labor and Delivery

- State-of-the-art Birthing rooms
- Four critical care labor rooms
- State-of-the-art neonatal intensive care unit

Since the opening of the Charette in April 1999:

More than 375,000 surgeries were performed and over 80,000 babies have been delivered.



Program

Musical Selections

Arrival of the Official Party

Presentation of Colors

National Anthem

Post the Colors

Invocation

CAPT William Hlavin, CHC, USN

Remarks by

CAPT Brian Feldman, MC, USN

Guest Speaker

RADM Darin Via, MC, USN

Benediction

CAPT William Hlavin, CHC, USN

Departure of the Official Party

Musical Selections

Cake Cutting

Special Meal (Galley)

Ice Cream Social

Rear Admiral Darin K. Via
U.S. Navy Surgeon General
Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
(BUMED)



Rear Admiral Darin K. Via is a native of Illinois. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Millikin University. Via enlisted in the U. S. Navy Reserve in 1985 as a Hospital Corpsman. In 1987, he entered active duty as an Ensign at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Science, where he earned a Doctor of Medicine in 1991. Via completed a Master of Health Care Delivery Science from Dartmouth College in 2014.

Via's professional training includes a transitional internship and anesthesiology residency at the National Naval Medical Center, and a trauma anesthesia fellowship at the R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, University of Maryland. He is qualified as an Undersea And Diving Medical Officer.

He has served in various positions throughout Navy Medicine to include staff anesthesiologist, National Naval Medical Center and Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP); vice chairman, Uniformed Services University; Chairman, Department of Anesthesiology, NMCP; Operative Support Service Line Leader, NMCP; director for Surgical Services, NMCP; deputy commander, NMCP; and commanding officer, NMCP.

Operationally, he served as department head, Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit Two; command surgeon, Combat Support Squadron Eight; department head USNS Comfort (TAH-20) during Operation Noble Eagle; department head, Fleet Hospital Three, 1st Force Service Support Group (1st FSSG), Camp Viper, Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom; and commanding officer, NATO Role Three, Multi-national Medical Unit and Commander, Task

Force Medical South, Kandahar, Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. Via also served as the command surgeon, U.S. Pacific Fleet, where he directed and oversaw all Force Health Protection, warfighter mission medical readiness, and strategic medical efforts in the Pacific. Via was selected the first Navy medical officer to serve as U.S. Central Command surgeon responsible for all Health Services Support in theater as the sole advisor to the Commander on all medical matters in the most kinetic combatant command.

Via's Flag tours include serving as deputy chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for Operations, Plans and Readiness and he was appointed as the first medical flag officer to stand up Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) N44 as the single resource sponsor for expeditionary medical capabilities. He additionally served as Naval Medical Forces Atlantic commander, and the Tidewater Military Health System senior market manager; Navy deputy surgeon general; deputy chief, U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery; and director, Medical Resources, Plans and Policy Division, N0931, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

Via took helm of Navy Medicine as Surgeon General/Chief of BUMED on March 27, 2023.

His professional activities include being a certified physician executive and clinical professor of Anesthesiology, Uniformed Services University. He has prior service as an American Board of Anesthesiology Oral Board examiner and has held numerous leadership positions within the American Society of Anesthesiologists and the Uniformed Services Society of Anesthesiologists.



Captain Brian L. Feldman
MEDICAL CORPS, UNITED STATES NAVY
Director, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth
Commander, Navy Medicine Readiness & Training
Command



Captain Feldman is a native of San Diego, California, the son of a Naval Flight Officer. A graduate of Duke University with a dual degree in biomedical and electrical and computer engineering in 1997, he was accepted to the Health Professions Scholarship Program and graduated from Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, Virginia, in 2001.

After completing residency at the Naval Medical Center

Portsmouth (NMCP), Virginia, he served as a staff pediatrician at the Halyburton Medical Clinic, Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point. He was selected for specialty training in Pediatric Hematology-Oncology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He completed a two-year cancer prevention fellowship and earned a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology with research on the associations between perinatal vitamins and cancer.

Feldman returned to NMCP and served in numerous positions throughout the medical center including the Director of Pediatric Specialty Services, Inpatient Medical Director, Associate Director of Medical Services, and Chairman of the Pediatric Department while maintaining a full-time clinical practice. He established the first clinical directorate of the Tidewater Multi-Service Market (now known as the Defense Health Agency Network) Pediatric Service Line, partnering with the Air Force and Army to expand inpatient services in the Tidewater region.

Experienced in humanitarian assistance and disaster response, he deployed with the USNS COMFORT (T-AH 20) as the Pediatric Department Head in support of Continuing Promise

2011, and he subsequently served as the Director of Medical Services from 2011-2015, including extensive mission development for Continuing Promise 2013 and 2015.

From 2008-2014, he led the Uniformed Services Oncology Consortium to ensure access to over 50 active clinical research treatment protocols for children with cancer to ensure that military dependents received cutting edge therapy. He served as the government sponsor for the Health Outcomes Center of Excellence from 2013-2019 which leveraged DoD data to help military investigators address drug safety, epidemiology, and health disparities.

Feldman led numerous Defense Support to Civilian Authority (DSCA) health services missions, and a deployment as the Task Force Surgeon for USS IWO JIMA (LHD-7) Amphibious Ready Group in 2017-2018. As Executive Officer of the Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory from July 2019–July 2021, he managed the comprehensive day-to-day operations of the Navy's only laboratory focused on research solutions to aid warfighters aboard the most medically challenging undersea platforms and mission sets in the U.S. Navy.

From July 2021-April 2023, he served as the Commander of the Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center, and inaugural Director of the Defense Centers for Public Health, supporting the global operational Public Health Policy and Management in support of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) and the Defense Health Agency to include 10 echelon five tenant commands involving the management of Radiation Health Protection Missions, Blood Borne Infection Management, Entomology, Environmental Preventive Medicine, Navy Drug Screening, Industrial Hygiene Laboratories, Environmental Programs, Epidemiological and Health Analysis, Health promotion and wellness policy, programs and execution for the fleet.

He currently serves as the Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Portsmouth commander and Naval Medical Center Portsmouth director.



Commanding Officers

Planning & Serving Charette

RADM Daniel B. Lestage, MC, 1990-1992

RADM William J. McDaniel, MC, 1992-1995

RADM William R. Rowley, MC, 1995-1998

RDML Marion J. Balsam, MC, 1998-2000

RDML Clinton E. Adams, MC, 2000-2002

RADM Thomas K. Burkhard, MC, 2002-2005

RADM Thomas R. Cullison, MC, 2005-2007

RDML Matthew L Nathan, MC, 2007-2008

RDML Robert (William) Kiser, MC, 2008-2010

RDML Alton L. Stocks, MC, 2010-2011

RDML Elaine C. Wagner, DC, 2011-2014

RDML Terry J. Moulton, MSC, 2014

CAPT Darin Via, MC, 2014-2016

CAPT Christopher Culp, MC, 2016-2019

CAPT Lisa Mulligan, MC, 2019- 2021

CAPT Shelly Perkins, MC, 2021-2023

CAPT Brian Feldman, MC, 2023-Present



Special Thanks to Ceremony Participants

Mistress of Ceremonies

CDR Cindi Palacios, MSC, USN

Invocation/Benediction

CAPT William Hlavin, CHC, USN

Color Guard

Ushers

HN Zachary Droppazimmerman

HM3 Colleen True

HN Couiny Dorval

HM3 Ryan Johnson

HN Kevontae Washington

HM3 David Parish

Band

Fleet Forces Band

State Flag Coordinator

HMCS Edgar Nunez Hernandez

NMRTC Portsmouth

Public Affairs Office

Ceremony Coordinators

Mr. Peter Kopacz

CDR Sarah Tallent, NC, USN

Ms. Melvina Queen

Ms. Pam Monigle

Mr. Scott Epperson

Visual Information Department

